

Message Text

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ACTION NASA-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SCI-06 DODE-00 PM-07 L-03 NSC-10

RSC-01 SPC-03 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DRC-01

(ADP) W

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FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9278

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RIO DE JANEIRO 3423

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA, BR

SUBJECT: PROPOSED MOU BETWEEN NASA, BMFT (GERMANY) AND INPE(BRAZIL)

FOLLOWING FACTS WILL BE USEFUL FOR DEPARTMENT AND NASA IN UNDER-
STANDING REASONS FOR DELAY IN APPROVAL OF SUBJECT MOU:

1. ACCORDING TO INPE DIRECTOR PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS FOR TRI-
LATERAL PROJECT WERE CONDUCTED DIRECTLY BETWEEN NASA AND INPE.
2. ONLY AFTER RIO CONGEN INQUIRED FROM NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
(CPQ) ON JULY 19 WHETHER INPE WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO COMMIT GOB
TO LIABILITY CLAUSE, AS REQUESTED IN STATE 181712, DID THE CNPQ
BECOME AWARE OF PROPOSED ROCKET LAUNCHINGS IN OCTOBER AND THAT
GERMAN GOVERNMENT WOULD BE INVOLVED IN PROJECT (SEE RIO 2682).
3. CNPQ OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF SPACE MATTERS INDICATED TO CONGEN
OFFICER THAT PRESIDENT OF CNPQ IS UPSET BY FACT THAT INPE, WHICH IS
SUBORDINATED TO CNPQ, ENTERED INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH NASA AND EMFT
WITHOUT CONSULTING HIM BEFOREHAND.
4. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT UNTIL SEPTEMBER 14, 1973 NO REPEAT NO
PROPOSED TRILATERAL MOU HAD BEEN OFICIALLY SUBMITTED TO GOB FOR
APPROVAL NOR HAD INPE RECEIVED FINAL VERSION OF IT. TEXT OF MOU
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CURRENTLY BEING EXAMINED BY CNPQ, FONOFF AND COBAE IS TEXT OF
DRAFT PROVIDED IN STATE MESSAGE OF 8/14/73 WHICH WAS INFORMALLY
PASSED BY CONGEN TO CNPQ OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF MATTER.

4. ACCORDING TO FONOFF OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS IN SPACE, NUCLEAR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT, MINISTER HENRIQUE MESQUITA, TEXT OF MOU IS CURRENTLY BEING EXAMINED BY WESTERN EUROPEAN DIVISION FONOFF AND WILL BE EXAMINED BY BRAZILIAN COMMISSION FOR SPACE ACTIVITIES (COBAE) DURING ITS NEXT SESSION SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 21. ACCORDING TO MESQUITA, FONOFF WOULD LIKE TO HAVE PROPOSED AGREEMENT EFFECTED THROUGH EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES THIS TIME, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF INCLUSION OF LIABILITY CLAUSE WHICH WILL INVOLVE THREE GOVERNMENTS.

6. MINISTER MESQUITA'S SUGGESTION WAS THAT DEPARTMENT SHOULD CONTACT BRAZEMBASSY WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY EXPRESSING DEPARTMENT'S INTEREST IN MATTER AND ASKING IT TO CABLE FONOFF REQUESTING URGENT APPROVAL OF MOU. HE NOTED THAT BRAZEMBASSY MIGHT SUGGEST THAT APPROVAL BE GRANTED IMMEDIATELY "AD REFERENDUM" OF COBAE'S MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21 AND THAT EXCHANGE OF NOTES BE MADE AFTER FORMAL APPROVAL OF MOU. SCIOFF CONVEYED MESQUITA'S SUGGESTION TO COL. BASTEDO, SCI, DEPARTMENT, BY TELEPHONE ON SEPTEMBER 14.

COMMENT: BOTH RIO CONGEN AND AMEMBASSY BRASILIA ARE DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN APPROVAL FOR PROJECT WITHIN SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME. PERSONAL REPRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO CONPQ, FONOFF AND COBAE. OBVIOUSLY THE DELAY IS DUE MAINLY TO BUREAUCRATIC PROBLEMS AND INAPPROPRIATE HANDLING OF MATTER BEFORE GOB AS MENTIONED ABOVE.

SOME OTHER CONSIDERATIONS WHICH MAY AFFECT OUR EFFORTS IN OBTAINING IMMEDIATE APPROVAL FOR MOU ARE: (A) CNPQ SOURCE ONCE COMMENTED TO CONGEN OFFICER THAT PROPOSED GERMAN RESEARCH PROJECTS SHOULD ALWAYS BE CAREFULLY EXAMINED TO PREVENT GERMANS FROM PERFORMING RESEARCH ABROAD THAT THEY ARE NOT PERMITTED TO CONDUCT AT HOME; (B) DURING THE LAST BLACK BRANT LAUNCH FROM THE BARREIRA DO INFERNO LAST FEBRUARY SOME DISCORD BETWEEN GERMAN AND BRAZILIAN TECHNICIANS WAS REPORTED (SEE RIO'S MEMCON OF APRIL 16, 1973); (C) JORNAL DO BRASIL OF SEPTEMBER 9, 1973, IN A COLUMN DEALING WITH MILITARY NEWS, ANNOUNCED THAT "GERMAN AND AMERICAN TECHNICIANS, TOGETHER WITH 17 ROCKETS OF VARIOUS TYPES, WILL ARRIVE IN BRAZIL

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IN NEXT FEW DAYS TO WORK WITH BRAZILIAN AIR FORCE AT BARREIRA DO INFERNO RANGE". THIS REPORT PERTURBED CNPQ NOT ONLY BECAUSE IT ANNOUNCED ARRIVAL OF ROCKETS AND LAUNCHING PROGRAM AS "FAIT ACCOMPLI" BUT ALSO BECAUSE INPE PARTICIPATION IS NOT EVEN MENTIONED. (D) PRESIDENT CNPQ IS CLEARLY UNHAPPY AT INPE DIRECTOR'S FREE-WHEELING AND MAY WISH TO SHOW HIM THAT CASES SUCH AS THIS MUST FOLLOW NORMAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND NOT BE DONE HIS WAY. PRESIDENT CNPQ HAS MORE THAN ONCE REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED WISH TO "CLIP INPE DIRECTOR'S WINGS" AND FORCE HIM TO ACT WITHIN CNPQ'S RULES (SEE RIO MEMCON OF APRIL 16, 1973).

RIO CONGEN RECOMMENDS THAT NASA ACT WITH GREATER CAUTION WHEN

DEALING WITH INPE DIRECTOR, PARTICULARLY INQUESTIONS INVOLVING
COMMITMENTS TO BE ASSUED BY INPE ON BEHALF GOB. INPE IS
SUBORDINATED TO CNPQ. BYPASSING CNPQ PRESIDENT NOT ONLY INCREASES
FRICTIONS BETWEEN INPE AND CNPQ BUT ALSO LESSENS USG INFLUENCE
VIS-A-VIS CNPQ AND OTHER BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES CONNECTED WITH
BRAZILIAN SPACE PROGRAMS.
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